

Introduced by Senator Cannella
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Gray)

January 28, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 77—Relative to the Special Agent Richard “Rick” K. Oules Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 77, as introduced, Cannella. Special Agent Richard “Rick” K. Oules Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of State Highway Route 140 from Arboleda Drive to Plainsburg Road in the County of Merced as the Special Agent Richard “Rick” K. Oules Memorial Highway. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, Special Agent Richard “Rick” K. Oules was born
2 on January 10, 1956, in Merced, California; and
3 WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules received his Bachelor of Arts
4 Degree in management from Saint Mary’s College in Moraga,
5 California; and
6 WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules began his law enforcement
7 career in 1977, with the Merced County Sheriff’s Department,
8 where he served as a Patrol Deputy, Narcotics Detective, and Patrol
9 Sergeant; and
10 WHEREAS, In 1987, he joined the Department of Justice as a
11 Special Agent and was assigned to the Bureau of Narcotic

1 Enforcement, where he worked on and supervised a clandestine
2 lab enforcement team resulting in the investigation and dismantling
3 of approximately 300 methamphetamine laboratories; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2005, he was appointed as the Director of the
5 Department of Justice's Division of Law Enforcement, where he
6 oversaw one of the largest state investigative law enforcement
7 agencies in the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules retired from the department
9 in 2008 and, after a short break, joined the United States Attorney's
10 Office in Sacramento, as a Law Enforcement Coordinator, where
11 he served until his death; and

12 WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules was recognized for his many
13 achievements by being awarded the California Coalition of Law
14 Enforcement Associations' Top Manager Award for Excellence
15 in Law Enforcement Leadership; and

16 WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules was the past President of the
17 California Narcotic Officers' Association (CNOA), served on the
18 CNOA Executive Board of Directors and the Executive Board of
19 Directors of the California Peace Officers' Association, and was
20 appointed to the California Council on Criminal Justice; and

21 WHEREAS, On April 4, 2011, Special Agent Oules died at 55
22 years of age after a courageous battle with lung cancer, which was
23 determined to be a result of his frequent long-term exposure to the
24 large number of chemicals and solvents found in methamphetamine
25 laboratories; and

26 WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules' death was ruled compensable
27 by the state; and

28 WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules is survived by his wife Lisa,
29 daughter Crissy, father Roger, and mother Patsy; and

30 WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules' service and sacrifice for the
31 people of the state are deserving of honor and tribute; now,
32 therefore, be it

33 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
34 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
35 portion of State Highway Route 140 from Arboleda Drive to
36 Plainsburg Road in the County of Merced as the Special Agent
37 Richard "Rick" K. Oules Memorial Highway; and be it further

38 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
39 to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the
40 signing requirements for the state highway system showing this

1 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate
2 sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it
3 further

4 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
5 this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author
6 for appropriate distribution.

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9 CORRECTIONS: _____

10 Text—page 2.

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